CAMPAIGN FINANCE



Campaign Committees

What is a campaign committee?

(§ 130.011(8), RSMo)

A campaign committee is a campaign finance committee formed by an individual or group of individuals to receive contributions or make expenditures for one of the following purposes:

- Supporting or opposing one or more ballot measures in an election.
- The retention of judges under the nonpartisan court plan.
- Supporting or opposing a petition to recall an incumbent from office.

Note: candidates for public office who are required to form a committee should form a candidate committee, **not** a campaign committee.

Where do campaign committees file?

- Statewide ballot measure: File with the MEC.
- **Local ballot measure:** File with local election authority (optional filing with the MEC. If you choose to file with the MEC, all future reports must be filed with the MEC).
- Nonpartisan judge retention (including Supreme Court, appellate, circuit, associate, and some municipal judges): File with the MEC.

Ballot Measures by Petition

(§ 130.046.2, RSMo)

Campaign committees related to ballot measures that qualified to be on the ballot by initiative petition, referendum petition, or an incumbent recall petition must file additional disclosure reports:

- **Initial 15 Day Report:** Due 15 days after committee begins raising or spending money. Discloses campaign finance activity between the day the committee first accepted contributions or made expenditures to support or oppose the petition effort through the fifth day prior to the due date.
- **15 Day After Petition Deadline Report:** Must be filed no later than 15 days after the deadline for submitting the petition.



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Requirements

A campaign committee must:

- Appoint a treasurer (required) and consider appointing a deputy treasurer (optional). A treasurer must:
 - Be a Missouri resident; and
 - Reside in the district or county in which the committee sits (treasurers of statewide committees may reside anywhere in the state).
- □ Open an official bank account in the name of the committee.
- □ File a *Statement of Committee Organization* with the appropriate authority within 20 days of forming, but no later than the due date for filing the first required reports.
- □ File all required campaign finance reports. Every committee must file *Quarterly Reports*. Other reports may include:
 - 40 Day Before Election Report.
 - 8 Day Before Election Report.
 - 30 Day After Election Report.
 - 24 Hour Notice of Late Contribution Received.
 - 48 Hour Report of Contributions Over \$5,000.
- □ Officially terminate by filing a *Termination Statement* and full disclosure report the later of 30 days after the election or upon the elimination of all committee debt.

Related Resources



- <u>When to Form and Register a Committee</u>
- <u>Campaign Finance Frequently Asked Questions</u>
- MEC Webinar Schedule
- Use of Campaign Contributions
- <u>Chapter 130, RSMo</u>

